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Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Fouad **Rajeh** (Saudi Arabia)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendation made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 138 appears in the report of the Committee contained in document A/58/583.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 40th, 41st, 46th and 51st meetings, on 3, 4 and 21 May 2004 and 3 June 2004. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/58/SR.40, 41, 46 and 51).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the performance of the budget of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 (A/58/684);

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the budget of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 (A/58/701);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the overview of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: budget performance for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003 and budget for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005 (A/58/705);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General on the financing arrangements for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 (A/58/772);

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(e) Related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/58/759 and Add.10 and A/58/794).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.5/58/L.75

4. At its 51st meeting on 3 June, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo" (A/C.5/58/L.75), which was submitted by the Chairman on the basis of informal consultations coordinated by the representative of Venezuela, Vice-Chairman of the Committee.

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/58/L.75 without a vote (see para. 6).

III. Recommendation of the Fifth Committee

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The General Assembly,

Having considered the reports and the note of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo[1] and the related reports of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[2]

Recalling Security Council resolutions 1258 (1999) of 6 August 1999 and 1279 (1999) of 30 November 1999 regarding, respectively, the deployment to the Congo region of military liaison personnel, and the establishment of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Mission, the latest of which was resolution 1493 (2003) of 28 July 2003, by which the Council also authorized increasing the military strength of the Mission,

Recalling also its resolution 54/260 A of 7 April 2000 on the financing of the Mission, and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 58/259 of 23 December 2003,

Reaffirming the general principles underlying the financing of United Nations peacekeeping operations, as stated in General Assembly resolutions 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, 3101 (XXVIII) of 11 December 1973 and 55/235 of 23 December 2000,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Mission,

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[1] A/58/684, A/58/701, A/58/705 and A/58/772.

[2] A/58/759 and Add.10 and A/58/794.

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Mission with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

1. *Takes note* of the status of contributions to the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as at 15 April 2004, including the contributions outstanding in the amount of 111.1 million United States dollars, representing some 6 per cent of the total assessed contributions, notes with concern that only thirty-six Member States have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States, in particular those in arrears, to ensure payment of their outstanding assessed contributions;

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to those Member States which have paid their assessed contributions in full, and urges all other Member States to make every possible effort to ensure payment of their assessed contributions to the Mission in full;

3. *Expresses concern* at the financial situation with regard to peacekeeping activities, in particular as regards the reimbursements to troop contributors that bear additional burdens owing to overdue payments by Member States of their assessments;

4. *Also expresses concern* at the delay experienced by the Secretary-General in deploying and providing adequate resources to some recent peacekeeping missions, in particular those in Africa;

5. *Emphasizes* that all future and existing peacekeeping missions shall be given equal and non-discriminatory treatment in respect of financial and administrative arrangements;

6. *Also emphasizes* that all peacekeeping missions shall be provided with adequate resources for the effective and efficient discharge of their respective mandates;

7. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to make the fullest possible use of facilities and equipment at the United Nations Logistics Base at Brindisi, Italy, in order to minimize the costs of procurement for the Mission;

8. *Endorses* the conclusions and recommendations contained in the reports of the Advisory Committee,[3] subject to the provisions of the present resolution, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure their full implementation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures in order to improve the distribution of food rations in the Mission;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General, in the context of the comprehensive review of the organizational structure of the Mission, to consider the posts required for the election process;

11. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to employ, if necessary, 17 additional staff, up to a total of 34, in the Office of Public Information for the purposes of the election process, within the approved budget level for 2004-2005, and to report thereon in the context of the next performance report of the Mission;

[3] A/58/759/Add.10 and A/58/794.

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to present in his next budget proposal workload indicators for the international staff in the Office of Public Information;

13. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary action to ensure that the Mission is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy, particularly with regard to air transport;

14. *Further requests* the Secretary-General, in order to reduce the cost of employing General Service staff, to continue efforts to recruit local staff for the Mission against General Service posts, commensurate with the requirements of the Mission;

Financial performance report for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003

15. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial performance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003;[4]

Budget estimates for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005

16. *Decides* to appropriate to the Special Account for the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo the amount of 746,072,500 dollars for the period from 1 July 2004 to 30 June 2005, inclusive of 709,123,200 dollars for the maintenance of the Mission, 30,207,700 dollars for the support account for peacekeeping operations and 6,741,600 dollars for the United Nations Logistics Base;

Financing of the appropriation

17. *Decides also* to apportion among Member States the amount of 746,072,500 dollars at a monthly rate of 62,172,708 dollars, in accordance with the levels set out in resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/236 of 23 December 2000 and updated in resolution 58/256 of 23 December 2003, and taking into account the scale of assessments for 2004 and 2005, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B of 23 December 2003, subject to a decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of the Mission;

18. *Decides further* that, in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 17 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of 22,311,400 dollars, comprising the estimated staff assessment income of 17,523,300 dollars approved for the Mission, the prorated share of 4,408,300 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the support account and the prorated share of 379,800 dollars of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the United Nations Logistics Base;

19. *Decides* that for Member States that have fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their apportionment, as provided for in paragraph 17 above, their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 133,437,500 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2003, in accordance with the levels set out in resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 55/236 and 57/290 A of 20 December 2002, taking into account the scale of assessments for

[4] A/58/684.

2003 as set out in its resolutions 55/5 B of 23 December 2000 and 57/4 B of 20 December 2002;

20. *Decides also* that for Member States that have not fulfilled their financial obligations to the Mission, there shall be set off against their outstanding obligations their respective share of the unencumbered balance and other income in the total amount of 133,437,500 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2003, in accordance with the scheme set out in paragraph 19 above;

21. *Decides further* that the increase in the estimated staff assessment income of 393,400 dollars in respect of the financial period ended 30 June 2003 shall be added to the credits from the amount referred to in paragraphs 19 and 20 above and that the respective shares of Member States therein shall be applied in accordance with the provisions of those paragraphs, as appropriate;

Financing of the appropriation for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004

22. *Takes note* of the note by the Secretary-General on the financing arrangements for the Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004;[5]

23. *Decides* to apportion among Member States the amount of 59,038,300 dollars already appropriated for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2003 to 30 June 2004 under the terms of its resolution 58/259, in accordance with the levels set out in resolution 55/235, as adjusted by the General Assembly in its resolutions 55/236 and 57/290 A and updated in resolution 58/256, taking into account the scale of assessments for 2003, as set out in its resolutions 55/5 B and 57/4 B, and the scale of assessments for 2004, as set out in its resolution 58/1 B;

24. *Decides also* that in accordance with the provisions of its resolution 973 (X), there shall be set off against the apportionment among Member States, as provided for in paragraph 23 above, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund of the estimated additional staff assessment income of 1,936,764 United States dollars approved for the Mission;

25. *Emphasizes* that no peacekeeping mission shall be financed by borrowing funds from other active peacekeeping missions;

26. *Encourages* the Secretary-General to continue to take additional measures to ensure the safety and security of all personnel under the auspices of the United Nations participating in the Mission;

27. *Invites* voluntary contributions to the Mission in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure and practices established by the General Assembly;

28. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-ninth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo".

[5] A/58/772.